

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SHAJI V. MARKOSE
(A44905502)

Plaintiff,

-against-

ANDREA QUARANTILLO, District Director,
New York District Office, United States
Citizenship & Immigration Services and
UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP &
IMMIGRATION SERVICES,

Defendants.

COMPLAINT

07 Civ. 7440

ECF CASE

Plaintiff Shaji V. Markose by his undersigned attorney, alleges as follows:

1. This is an action for a judicial determination on a pending naturalization application that has not been adjudicated within the time required by law. In the alternative, this is an action in the nature of mandamus and/or for declaratory and injunctive relief to compel agency action that has been unlawfully withheld and unreasonably delayed. The action arises under the Immigration & Nationality Act of 1952, as amended (the "Act"), 8 U.S.C. §§ 1101 et seq. and the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), 5 U.S.C. §§ 551 et seq. Subject matter jurisdiction is based upon 8 U.S.C. § 1447, 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 28 U.S.C. § 1337, and 28 U.S.C. § 1361. This Court may grant relief pursuant to the Act, the APA, and the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 et seq., and 28 U.S.C. § 1361.

2. Plaintiff Shaji V. Markose ("plaintiff" or "Mr. Markose") is a lawful permanent resident of the United States with a residence at 8 Deerwood Drive, New City, New York within the Southern District of New York

3. Defendant Andrea Quarantillo is the District Director for the New York district of United States Citizenship & Immigration Services with responsibility for the grant and denial of naturalization applications filed by residents of the Southern District of New York pursuant to 8 U.S.C. §§ 1421, 1427. Defendant Quarantillo routinely transacts business in the Southern District of New York and maintains an office at 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York where examinations on naturalization applications are conducted and naturalization applications are adjudicated.

4. Defendant United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (“USCIS”) is made a party defendant for purposes of obtaining declaratory and injunctive relief pursuant to the APA and the Declaratory Judgment Act.

5. On or about April 26, 2006, Mr. Markose filed a naturalization application with USCIS on USCIS form N-400. By notice dated June 27, 2006, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, Mr. appeared for an examination and oath ceremony on his application at 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York on August 21, 2006. This examination was conducted in accordance with Section 335 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1446. Mr. Markose passed the English language, American history, and United States government sections of the examination, as shown by the Naturalization Interview Results for his examination, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit B. Under Section 336 of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1447, USCIS was required to grant or deny Mr. Markose’s naturalization application within 120 days of the date of the August 21, 2006 interview and the Naturalization Interview Results specifically advised Mr. Markose that he had to right to a hearing in United States District Court if no decision was made on his application within 120 days. To date, despite repeated inquiries no decision has been rendered on this application almost a year has now elapsed since the date of the interview.

COUNT ONE

6. Paragraphs 1 through 5 above are repeated and realleged as though fully set forth herein.

7. Mr. Markose has satisfied all the prerequisites for naturalization and USCIS has failed to grant or deny his naturalization application within 120 days of the examination, with almost a year having passed since Mr. Markose was interviewed on his naturalization application.

8. Under Section 336(b) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1447(b), Mr. Markose should be granted a hearing on his naturalization application by this Court and should be naturalized.

COUNT TWO

9. Paragraphs 1 through 5 above are repeated and realleged as though fully set forth herein.

10. The continuing failure of USCIS to take the action required by law on Mr. Markose's naturalization application violates the Act and the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 555(b). Under the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706(1), this Court has the power to compel agency action unlawfully withheld or unreasonably delayed. In addition, the continuing failure of USCIS to take action required by law is subject to correction by mandamus under 28 U.S.C. § 1361.

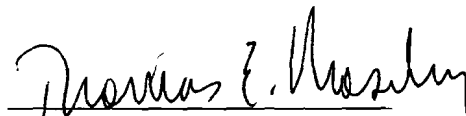
WHEREFORE, the plaintiff Shaji V. Markose demands judgment:

(a) Granting him a hearing before this Court on his naturalization application and declaring that he is entitled to be naturalized, or, in the alternative,

(b) Ordering defendants to grant or deny his naturalization application forthwith,

(c) Granting him costs and attorneys fees and such other and further relief that
this Court may deem proper.

Dated: Newark, New York
August 20, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Moseley", is written over a horizontal line.

THOMAS E. MOSELEY

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Attorney Number TM3371
Attorney for Plaintiff

EXHIBT A



Request for Applicant to Appear for Naturalization Initial Interview			NOTICE DATE June 27, 2006
CASE TYPE N400 Application For Naturalization			INS A# A 044 905 502
APPLICATION NUMBER ESC*001620107	RECEIVED DATE April 26, 2006	PRIORITY DATE April 26, 2006	PAGE 1 of 1

APPLICANT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS
 SHAJI VELJAVETTIL MARKOSE
 c/o THOMAS E MOSELEY
 LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS E MOSELEY
 ONE GATEWAY CENTER SUITE # 2600
 NEWARK NJ 07102

Please come to:
 US CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SERVICE
 26 FEDERAL PLAZA ROOM 7-700
 US CIS 7TH FL ROOM 7-700
 MAIN ROOM
 NEW YORK NY 10278
 On (Date): Monday, August 21, 2006
 At (Time): 11:15 AM

You are hereby notified to appear for an interview on your Application for Naturalization at the date, time, and place indicated above. **Waiting room capacity is limited. Please do not arrive any earlier than 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment time.** The proceeding will take about two hours. If for any reason you cannot keep this appointment, return this letter immediately to the INS office address listed below with your explanation and a request for a new appointment; otherwise, no further action will be taken on your application.

If you are applying for citizenship for yourself, you will be tested on your knowledge of the government and history of the United States. You will also be tested on reading, writing, and speaking English, unless on the day you filed your application, you have been living in the United States for a total of at least 20 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 50 years old, or you have been living in the United States for a total of 15 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 55 years old, or unless you have a medically determinable disability (you must have filed form N648 Medical Certification for Disability Exception, with your N400 Application for Naturalization).

You MUST BRING the following with you to the interview:

- This letter.
- Your Alien Registration Card (green card).
- Any evidence of Selective Service Registration.
- Your passport and/or any other documents you used in connection with any entries into the United States.
- Those items noted below which are applicable to you:

If applying for NATURALIZATION AS THE SPOUSE of a United States Citizen;

- Your marriage certificate.
- Proof of death or divorce for each prior marriage of yourself or spouse.
- Your spouse's birth or naturalization certificate or certificate of citizenship.

If applying for NATURALIZATION as a member of the United States Armed Forces;

- Your discharge certificate, or form DD 214.

If copies of a document were submitted as evidence with your N400 application, the originals of those documents should be brought to the interview.

PLEASE keep this appointment, even if you do not have all the items indicated above.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this notice or the status of your case, please contact our office at the below address or customer service number. You will be notified separately about any other cases you may have filed.

INS Office Address:
 US IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
 USCIS 7TH FLOOR ROOM 7-700
 26 FEDERAL PLAZA
 NEW YORK NY 10278-

INS Customer Service Number:
 (800) 375-5283

REPRESENTATIVE COPY

EXHIBT B

Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

N-652, Naturalization Interview Results

Name: **Shaji Markose**

A#: **44 905 502**

On **August 21, 2006** you were interviewed by officer **R. Richards**

- ☒ You passed the test of English and U.S. history and government.
- ☐ You passed the test of U.S. history and government and the English language requirement was waived.
- ☐ USCIS has accepted your request for a Disability Exception. You are exempted from the requirement to demonstrate English language ability and/or a knowledge of U.S. history and government.
- ☐ You will be given another opportunity to be tested on your ability to _____ speak/ _____ read/ _____ write _____ English.
- ☐ You will be given another opportunity to be tested on your knowledge of U.S. history and government.
- ☐ Please follow the instructions on the Form N-14.
- ☒ USCIS will send you a written decision about your application.
- ☐ You did not pass the second and final test of your _____ English ability/ _____ knowledge of U.S. history and government. You will not be rescheduled for another interview for this N-400. USCIS will send you a written decision about your application.

A) _____ **Congratulations! Your application has been recommended for approval.** At this time it appears that you have established your eligibility for naturalization. If final approval is granted, you will be notified when and where to report for the Oath Ceremony.

B) X **A decision cannot yet be made about your application.**

It is very important that you:

- ☒ Notify USCIS if you change your address.
- ☒ Come to any scheduled interview.
- ☒ Submit all requested documents.
- ☒ Send any questions about this application in writing to the officer named above. Include your full name, A-number, and a copy of this paper.
- ☒ Go to any Oath Ceremony that you are scheduled to attend.
- ☒ Notify INS as soon as possible in writing if you cannot come to any scheduled interview or Oath Ceremony. Include a copy of this paper and a copy of the scheduling notice.

NOTE: Please be advised that under section 336 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, you have the right to request a hearing before an immigration officer if your application is denied, or before the U.S. district court if USCIS had not made a determination on your application within 120 days of the date of your examination.

Form N-652 (Rev.01/14/05)N

cc: **Thomas E. Moseley**